

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT			1. CONTRACT ID CODE		PAGE OF PAGES 1 4		
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 0001		3. EFFECTIVE DATE JUL 29, 2008		4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO. EDNAGB-08-900016		5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)	
6. ISSUED BY National Assessment Governing Board 800 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 825 Washington DC 20002-4233				7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) See Block 6			
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code)				9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. ED-08-R-0028 9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) JUL 08, 2008 10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO. 10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)			
CODE		FACILITY CODE					

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

☒ The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers ☐ is extended, ☒ is not extended.
 Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:
 (a) By completing items 8 and 15, and returning _____ copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment your desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

See Schedule

13. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO MODIFICATION OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS. IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

CHECK ONE	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor ☐ is not, ☐ is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

The purpose of this amendment is to reply to questions received in reference to solicitation number ED-08-R-0028, Developing Achievement Levels on the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress for Science Grades 4, 8, and 12.

See the attached questions and answers.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) <i>Charles Smith Contracting Officer</i>	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR (Signature of person authorized to sign)	15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA <i>[Signature]</i> (Signature of Contracting Officer)	16C. DATE SIGNED <i>7/29/08</i>

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT GOVERNING BOARD

Solicitation Number ED-08-R-0028

Setting Achievement Levels on the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress in Science at Grades 4, 8, and 12

Clarification Questions and Responses

1. We believe content experts will play a significant role in the standard setting meetings. Given their importance, we would like to propose our two organizations work together to identify suitable candidates for these positions; should the contract be awarded to us. Would the Governing Board be agreeable to having those persons named after the contract has been awarded?

Response:

No, these persons should be named, letters of agreement to serve should be included, and confirmation of availability from their primary employer should be included. Please refer to page 21, paragraphs 3 and 5 of the Statement of Work.

2. We are intending to have a content expert serve on the technical advisory committee. Is it possible for that individual to also serve as a content facilitator during the standard setting meetings, should that become desirable?

Response:

Yes, it is possible.

3. If the answers to questions 1 and 2 are yes, can the identification of this individual wait until after the contract has been awarded?

Response:

Please refer to page 21, paragraphs 3 and 5 and response to question 1 above.

4. The RFP indicates that the contractor should be prepared to conduct a pilot study and report results by the May 2009 meeting of the Board. In addition, the contractor must be prepared to convene the achievement levels panel and report results by the January 2010 Board meeting.

We believe the time period between the pilot and the achievement level setting is too long, causing concern for the following reasons:

- It defeats an important function of a pilot study—the practice run. We believe it will be difficult for staff and facilitators to maintain the “experience” for such a long period of time.

- The extended period of time between meetings will likely require entirely separate nomination and recruiting efforts for both standard setting meetings. Thus, increasing staff labor as well as project costs.
- Although less of a concern, the distance between the two may increase potential commitment problems with facilitation consultants.

In addition, we believe the May 2009 deadline for reporting pilot results puts a vast amount of burden on the front end of the contract.

Is it possible to push the pilot study reporting date back to August 2009, or to a special meeting of the COSDAM sometime in between the May and August meetings?

Response:

The operational achievement levels-setting meeting can be implemented at any time after the data are available, provided the results can be reported to the Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology by January 2010. Data are typically available in August of the operational administration year.

If there are cost savings to be realized by a delay in reporting the results of the pilot study from May 2009 to August 2009, the Governing Board will approve this change in schedule.

Details of schedules are typically discussed in the initial contract meeting and used in preparing the Planning Document.

5. We plan to use previous work with the Governing Board in the past performance section of the proposal. The RFP requires the bidder to send Contractor Performance Information forms to its references. Should these forms be sent to the contracting officer's representatives for completion? If not, to whom should the relevant forms be sent?

Response:

Past Performance Forms may be sent to the Governing Board contracting officer's representatives who served on prior contracts for developing achievement levels.

6. The RFP states that NAGB requires 30 days to review the Design Document. Given time constraints, would NAGB be agreeable to a shorter review period? In addition, would NAGB be amenable to our collecting public comment on the Design Document at the same time that NAGB is conducting their review of the document?

Response:

While a shorter time for review may be possible, that cannot be determined at this time.

Public comment collected prior to approval of the Design Document by the Governing is not acceptable. The Governing Board will expedite the approval process to the extent possible.